

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

On Title Page, before Page 1, line 1, please amend the title to read:

**LINEAR DRIVE UNIT REDUCING STRESS GENERATED IN MOVABLE  
PART IN HORIZONTAL DIRECTION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 6 to read:

In the present embodiment, although both the upper magnetic pole tooth 11a and the lower magnetic pole tooth ~~[[11b]]~~ 21b are provided with the step portions, the invention takes effect even when only the upper magnetic pole tooth 11a or only the lower magnetic pole tooth ~~[[11b]]~~ 21b is provided with a step portion. However, it is preferable that both the upper magnetic pole tooth 11a and the lower magnetic pole tooth ~~[[11b]]~~ 21b have the step portions, since a larger restoring force acts on the movable part. In the case that the step portions have a larger width w1 than the width w2 of the permanent magnet arranged in the movable part, there is produced a range in which little restoring force acts on the movable part 6. Accordingly, it is desired that the width w1 of the step portion is substantially equal to or smaller than the width w2 of the permanent magnets. In the case of using an irregular magnetic plate (namely, a magnetic plate having an uneven surface) for the movable part 6 as described later, it is desired that the width w1 of the step portion is smaller than the width of the magnetic plate.